

VAN CAMP SEA FOOD COMPANY

840 Van Camp Street, Port of Long Beach, California

February 19, 1963

Dr. L. R. Donaldson, Director
Laboratory of Radiation Biology
University of Washington
Seattle 5, Washington

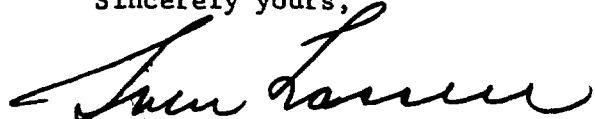
Dear Dr. Donaldson:

Mr. Vignolo's letter of today to you expresses our interest in the report you forwarded us on the results of your radioactivity analyses of tuna meat and tuna livers obtained in our plant in American Samoa.

We are, of course, very pleased that the analyses completed in your laboratory did not show more than a very small fraction of the levels used as a guide by the National Committee on Radiation Protection. I was surprised at the lower content of K^{40} in the liver than you found in the meat, and I am wondering whether this ratio also would apply, more or less, to the other radioactive elements tested for. The very low radioactivity found in the liver and the meat of the tuna would presumably exclude the possibility of a selective accumulation of significant amounts of Strontium-90 in the bone substances or radioactive iodine in the thyroid.

We are grateful to you for sending us this data which will, no doubt, allay any apprehensions that some of us may have had with respect to the possibility of radioactive contamination resulting from recent nuclear explosions in that area.

Sincerely yours,


S. Lassen

SL/df